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Assistant Director for Research and Reports

6 February 1956

THRU : Chief, Economic Research Area  
Chief, Materials Division

Report for the Month of January 1956

I. Accomplishments

A. Projects and miscellaneous reports completed and forwarded during the month of January other than those listed in the Status of Reports are:

1. OO.1019 - "Copper Shipments from the West to the Sino-Soviet Bloc for the First Eight Months of 1955." This project was forwarded to the requestor, ORR/D/E on 11 January 1956.

2. A reply to Senator Murray's request for data on titanium in the Sino-Soviet Bloc was prepared and forwarded on 27 January 1956.

3. An NSC briefing for the Director, CIA, on the current world copper situation.

4. Project S-29 consisting of Division comments on the review of a CIA article on "Soviet Crop Prospects" was prepared and forwarded.

5. A report on new information obtained by the US delegation to the USSR was submitted to St/I on 23 January 1956.

6. Project S-33, "Appraisal of Comments in Moscow Telegram #1555" was completed. (DD/I request)

7. Project S-34, "Appraisal of Khrushchev's Speech on the New Lands" was forwarded on 25 January 1956.

8. A number of miscellaneous office-wide reports, Current Support Memoranda, and NIEs were submitted during the month.

B. Other Activities

1. The first meeting of the Ferrous Metals Advisory Panel was held on 17-18 January 1956.

2. A letter to the Chairman of the Council on Foreign Economic Policy regarding the history and status of negotiations


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between the Governments of India and Soviet Russia for the construction of the Bhilai steel plant was drafted for the signature of the DD/I by the Ferrous Metals Branch.

## II Problems

The shortage of typists is still with us and growing more acute as the Fiscal Year progresses and NIS deadlines draw closer. Although the Division is better staffed with clerical help than it has been for some time, the NIS program requires more typing than the majority of Branches can handle comfortably at the present time. We are exploring a number of measures directed at utilizing our typists more effectively. These measures, together with a considerable amount of overtime, should see us through. However, the burden on the Division's clerical personnel will necessarily be heavy. It is strongly recommended that emphasis be put on recruiting typists at the 3 and 4 grade level who are able and willing to type above all other considerations.

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